

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204775

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO LONG-TERM DEFENSE PLANNING

REFS: A. USNATO 6032, DTG 141756Z JUN 78
B. USNATO 7156, DTG 251714Z JUL 78
C. USNATO 7039, DTG 191515Z JUL 78

1. BASICALLY, WE FAVOR EXTENDING NATO DEFENSE
PLANNING OVER THE LONGER TERM, BECAUSE THIS WILL
TEND TO GIVE IT GREATER INFLUENCE OVER NATIONAL
PLANS, WHICH INCREASINGLY ARE STRECHING OUT BEYOND
THE PRESENT SIX YEAR FOCUS OF NATO'S FORCE
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PLANNING. THE SOONER NATO GUIDELINES CAN BE
DEVELOPED, THE GREATER CHANCE THEY WILL HAVE
OF GETTING NATIONAL PLANS TO CONFORM TO THEM
RATHER THAN VICE VERSA.

2. UNLESS MISSION PERCEIVES DIFFICULTIES, YOU
SHOULD DRAW ON PARA 3 TO DISCUSS WITH THE

I" THE STUDY THEY ARE DRAFTING ON NATO'S
"COORDINATED DEFENSE PLANNING MACHINERY" (PARA 7, REF A).
THE STUDY OF COURSE RAISES QUESTIONS ON THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN THE LTDP IN IMPLEMENTATION AND NATO'S

ONGOING FORCE PLANNING PROCESS. OUR ALLIES OBVIOUSLY
HAVE SUCH QUESTIONS VERY MUCH IN MIND, AS INDICATED
BY PAUL'S WARNING AT THE PERMREPS LUNCHEON JULY 18
(PARA 1, REF C). HARMONIZING THE LTDP AND THE
FORCE PLANNING PROCESS IS ESSENTIAL. WE DO NOT
WANT TO PUT AT RISK THE VITAL GAINS EMBODIED IN
THE LTDP. WE MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO UNDERCUT
ALLIED SUPPORT FOR THE LTDP IN IMPLEMENTATION BY
SEEMING TO SHIFT THE PROGRAM INTO A ROLE BEYOND
THAT WHICH ALLIES THINK THEY APPROVED. AT THE
SAME TIME, WE MUST CAPITALIZE BOTH ON THE DEGREE
OF COMMITMENT WHICH THE LTDP RECEIVED AND ON THE
VISIBILITY WHICH LTDP PROGRAMS WILL ENJOY ON A
CONTINUING BASIS.

3. SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS (DELETE FYI BEFORE USE):

-- WE BELIEVE THAT ORDERLY AND EFFECTIVE LTDP
IMPLEMENTATION AND THE TRADITIONAL NATO FORCE
PLANNING PROCESS ARE ESSENTIALLY COMPATIBLE.
BOTH HAVE THE SAME BASIC OBJECTIVE--TO STRENGTHEN
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NATO'S DEFENSE CAPABILITY. HOWEVER, WE DOUBT
WHETHER MANY ASPECTS OF FORCE PLANNING COULD
READILY BE ADAPTED TO AS LONG-TERM A PLANNING
BASIS AS THE LTDP HAS. MOREOVER, WHILE THERE
IS SOME SUBSTANTIVE OVERLAP, THERE ARE MANY
THINGS IN LTDP WHICH DO NOT READILY LEND THEMSELVES
TO FORCE GOALS TYPE OF PLANNING. SINCE THESE
DIFFERENCES CONCEIVABLY COULD BRING THEM INTO
CONFLICT AT TIMES, OUR MAIN JOB WILL BE TO SEE
THAT, AS THEY REMAIN HARNESSSED TO THE COMMON
OBJECTIVE, THEY PULL IN THE SAME DIRECTION.
KEEPING BOTH IN THE TRACES WILL BE ESPECIALLY
IMPORTANT IF THEY SOMETIMES COMPETE FOR THE SAME
RESOURCES.

-- THE GROUND RULES PROPOSED BY SYG LUNS IN HIS
DRAFT REPORT ON ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS PROVIDE
BASIC PRINCIPLES TO HARMONIZE THE TWO PROCESSES:

A. THE IDENTITY OF THE LTDP IN ITS IMPLEMENTING
PHASE AS WELL AS THE FUNCTIONAL INTEGRITY OF THE
MAJOR PROGRAM AREAS MUST BE PRESERVED. FYI: THE

ONLY WAY WE MANAGED TO SELL THE LTDP IN THE FIRST PLACE WAS TO TREAT IT AS A SPECIAL HIGH VISIBILITY EXERCISE. THIS IS ALSO THE ONLY WAY WE WILL MAXIMIZE THE CHANCE OF EFFECTIVE FOLLOW-THROUGH. END FYI.

B. AT THE SAME TIME, WE SHOULD AVOID QUOTE THE CONFUSION AND DUPLICATION OF WORK THAT WOULD ARISE FROM DIVIDING NATO'S COORDINATED DEFENSE PLANNING WHOLLY INTO TWO STREAMS, ONE FOR LTDP AND THE OTHER FOR THE NORMAL FLOW OF NATO PLANNING. UNQUOTE FYI: THIS WILL BE LARGELY ACCOMPLISHED BY THE SIMPLE FACT THAT BOTH STREAMS WILL BE HANDLED BY THE SAME NATO AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES. END FYI.

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C. NATO AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL SHOULD EXTEND ITS COORDINATED DEFENSE PLANNING MACHINERY AND EXPAND AND STRENGTHEN ITS OPERATIONS. THIS WILL ENSURE THAT THE LTDP'S MORE THAN 120 MEASURES CAN BE IMPLEMENTED BY NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS, NATO COMMITTEES AND NMAS EFFECTIVELY AND VIGOROUSLY, AND IN THE LTDP'S FRAMEWORK OF A COLLECTIVE APPROACH.

D. AS NATO'S DEFENSE PLANNING AS A WHOLE, AS A RESULT OF THE STIMULUS OF THE LTDP, MOVES INTO A LONGER TIME-FRAME, THE DIVISION OF DEFENSE PLANNING AND POLICY WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT AND REFINEMENT OF THE CURRENT NATO FORCE PLANNING REVIEW PROCEDURE TO ADAPT IT TO THE NEEDS OF THE LONGER TIME-FRAME AND THEREAFTER PLAY ITS ROLE IN ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

-- IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE GENERAL QUESTIONS, WE BELIEVE THERE SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC POINTS IN THE STUDY:

A. WE AGREE IN GENERAL THAT NATO FORCE PLANNING SHOULD LOOK OUT MORE THAN SIX YEARS, TO THE EXTENT REALISTICALLY FEASIBLE, AND SHOULD INTERRELATE EFFECTIVELY WITH OTHER AREAS OF NATO DEFENSE PLANNING, SUCH AS LONG-TERM ARMAMENTS PLANNING, INFRASTRUCTURE, LOGISTICS, CIVIL EMERGENCY SUPPORT AND C3. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE ASYG FOR DEFENSE PLANNING TO INVOLVE THE ASYG FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT AND THE DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND COUNCIL OPERATIONS IN THE DRAFTING OF THE STUDY. NATO DEFENSE PLANNING, AS IT NOW STANDS, SUFFERS FROM POOR COORDINATION BETWEEN THESE
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SEGMENTS OF THE IS. ONE OF THE ISSUES THE STUDY MIGHT ADDRESS IS HOW IS DIVISIO'S IN ADDITION TO THAT FOR DEFENSE PLANNING WOULD PARTICIPATE IN DRAFTING THE BIENNIAL MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE.

B. WE SHOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE CLOSE LIAISON BY IS WITH IMS IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS STUDY. WE SEE THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AS A RELATIVELY UNTAPPED RESEVOIR OF MILITARY EXPERTISE AND JUDGMENT ON THE QUESTION OF TAKING AN OVERALL LOOK AT THE TOTALITY OF NATO DEFENSE PLANNING IN A LONG-TERM FRAMEUORK AND ON A PREIODIC BASIS I.E., BOTH IN SETTING UP THE SYSTEM AND IN RECEIVING RESULTS, SINCE IT IS REPRESENTED IN ALMOST ALL RELEVANT COMMITTEES.

C. WE THINK THAT THE IS STUDY SHOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE FOR CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING, THE CURRENT EFFORTS "O DEVELOP A LONG-TERM APPROACH TO COOPERATION IN ARMAMENTS (THE TAD AND PAPS/NAPR), AND THE EFFORTS BY THE SENIOR NATO LOGISTICIANS CONFERENCE TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY OF LOGISTIC PROBLEMS AND A LOGISTIC MASTER PLAN TO HELP IN SOLVING THEM.

CHRISTOPHER

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